

AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended): A system for call processing, comprising:
 - a telephone call receiving switch configured prior to answering a call to detect and pass out of band call destination information comprising Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) information associated with the call;
 - an IVR adapted to perform an audio script, said IVR in electronic communication with said switch;
 - a server computer in electronic communication with said telephone call receiving switch for receiving the out-of-band call destination information and in electronic communication with said IVR for forwarding the out-of-band call destination information to said IVR before the call arrives at a port of said IVR;
 - a network structure in electronic communication with said IVR and said server; and
 - a port sharing data interface processing (DIP) program in operation with said IVR, said program adapted to enable said script to be performed on multiple ports of said IVR.
2. (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the DIP dynamically allocates scripts to ports.
3. (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the system manages port state before, during, and after a call.
4. (original): The system of claim 1, wherein a single list of DNIS numbers resides at said IVR.

5. (currently amended): A system comprising:

a plurality of telephone call receiving switches, each configured prior to answering a call to detect and pass out of band call destination information comprising Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) information associated with the call;

a plurality of multiple port IVR's adapted to play a plurality of scripts, in electronic communication with said switches;

at least one server computer in electronic communication with said plurality of telephone call receiving switches for receiving the out-of-band call destination information and in electronic communication with said IVR's, said at least one server configured to associate one of said plurality of scripts to the out-of-band call destination information;

a network structure facilitating electronic communication between said IVR's and said switches and said at least one server; and

a port sharing data interface processing program in operation with IVR's, whereby each port of each IVR is monitored to determine its availability to receive a call, to request call destination information from said server via said network structure and play at least one of said scripts to a caller.

6. (currently amended) A method of handling a plurality of telephone calls received at a private branch switch (PBX) to efficiently use a plurality of ports of an interactive voice response (IVR) to provide a selected one of a plurality of applications, the method comprising:

in response to receiving a call at the PBX, passing call destination information comprising Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) information associated with the call out of band to the IVR before the call arrives at a port of said IVR;

identifying an application associated with the call destination information;

assigning the call to a selected one of the plurality of ports of the IVR; and

in response to receiving the call at the IVR ~~thereto~~, executing the identified application at the selected port.

7. (currently amended) A method of handling a plurality of telephone calls received at a private branch switch (PBX) to efficiently use a plurality of ~~parts~~ ports of an interactive voice response (IVR) to provide a selected one of a plurality of applications, the method comprising:

in response to receiving a call at the PBX, passing call destination information to the IVR by detecting Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) and Automatic Number Identification (ANI) associated with the call, passing the DNIS and ANI out of band to the IVR before the call arrives at a port of said IVR, and answering the call at the PBX;

identifying an application associated with the call destination information;

assigning the call to a selected one of the plurality of ports of the IVR; and

in response to receiving the call at the IVR ~~thereto~~, executing the application at the selected port.

8. (currently amended) A method of handling a plurality of telephone calls received at a private branch switch (PBX) to efficiently use a plurality of ~~parts~~ ports of an interactive voice response (IVR) to provide a selected one of a plurality of applications, the method comprising:

in response to receiving a call at the PBX, passing call destination information comprising Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) information associated with the call to the IVR before the call arrives at a port of said IVR,

identifying an application associated with the call destination information by associating each of a plurality of destinations to a lone of a plurality of applications, storing the associations, and in response to receiving the call destination information, looking up the call destination in the stored association; assigning the call to a selected one of the plurality of ports of the IVR; and in response to receiving the call at the IVR thereto, executing the application at the selected port.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein passing call destination information to the IVR further comprises:
detecting Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) and Automatic Number Identification (ANI) associated with the call;
passing the DNIS and ANI out of band to the IVR before the call arrives at a port of said IVR; and
answering the call at the PBX.

10. (currently amended): A system for call processing, comprising:

a telephone call receiving switch configured to detect call destination information comprising Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) information associated with ~~[[of]]~~ an incoming call, to assign the incoming call to a selected one of a plurality of channels, to pass the call destination information out of band to the selected channel, and to answer the incoming call;

a table containing a plurality of call destination records associated with a plurality of applications;

a server apparatus in data communication with said ~~switch~~ table and said telephone call receiving switch and responsive to the out of band call destination information to identify an associated application with reference to the table and to a call identifier to the incoming call;

an IVR that includes a port in telephony communication with the selected channel and in data communication with the server, the IVR including a port sharing data interface processing program responsive to the detected call destination information and incoming call reaching said port to access said associated program to perform on the selected port, the IVR being further configured to access said associated program before the call arrives at said port.

11. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the telephone call receiving switch is further configured to detect call origination information of the incoming call, wherein the application comprising an audio script, the system further comprising:

a scripter configured to prepare a script responsive to said call origination information.

12. (currently amended): The system of claim 1, wherein said telephone call receiving switch is further configured to detect and pass out of band call destination information ~~by detecting further~~ comprising ~~Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS) and Automatic Number Identification (ANI)~~ associated with the call.